

REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BRIGHAM CITY COUNCIL
June 1, 2006

PRESENT:	Lou Ann Christensen	Mayor
	Jon Adams	Councilmember
	Holly Bell	Councilmember
	Alden Farr	Councilmember
	Reese Jensen	Councilmember
	Steve Hill	Councilmember
ALSO PRESENT:	Ben Boyce	Director of Leisure Services
	Jim Buchanan	Director of Emergency Services
	Blake Fannesbeck	Director of Public Works
	Nancy Jo Green	Director of Senior Center
	Paul Larsen	Director of Economic Development
	Bruce Leonard	City Administrator
	Dennis Sheffield	Director of Finance/Deputy City Recorder
	Mark Teuscher	Community Development Supervisor/City Planner
	Paul Tittensor	Chief of Police

Mayor Christensen called the meeting to order and gave the Reverence Period. Upon calling for approval of the minutes, the Mayor noted in the May 4, 2006 Council meeting, "Youth Co-Mayor Baugh" should be "Youth Co-Mayor Munns." Also in the executive session minutes, she suggested the paragraph on page 3 be reworded from "Their decision is really not binding" to "Their decision is binding but can be appealed to the Public Service Commission within 20 days for a rehearing. If the findings remain unchanged, their decision can be appealed to the Supreme Court." The following two sentences should be removed. Councilmember Adams stated that he had given some corrections to the City Recorder on the same page. Councilmember Bell made a motion to approve the minutes of May 4, 2006 Council and Executive Session, and May 18, 2006 Work Session as amended. The motion was seconded and carried. Mayor Christensen presented the agenda as follows:

PRESENTATION OF COUNCIL'S 2006-07 BUDGET

PUBLIC COMMENT

CONSENT

Request to Write-off Accounts Due to Resident Taking Out Bankruptcy or Being Sent to Collections

SCHEDULED DELEGATION

~~Update on Box Elder Community Pantry - Tabled~~

NEW BUSINESS

Request Authorization to Utilize Funds in Senior Center Trust Fund to Remodel Office Space at the Senior Center

~~Request for Approval of Ordinance Amending Title 11, Emergency Services - Tabled~~

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Request for Approval of Fire Contract with Box Elder County

OTHER BUSINESS

Visioning Work Session

CLAIMS

Payment Register

Councilmember Bell made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF COUNCIL'S 2006-07 BUDGET

Mayor Pro Tem Adams said the Mayor's proposed budget was \$41,039,686. The Council's proposed budget is \$41,035,443. This includes \$6,000 in classification changes that will lower that. This makes approximately \$11,000 difference between the Mayor's budget and the Council's budget. Last year's budget was \$39,035,138.

There is \$12,774,101 budgeted for capital projects, which includes funds for the UDOT Main Street Project.

When the budget process started, the cash fund balance in the fleet fund had been built up to almost \$1.4 million. The Mayor's budget used part of this for new equipment purchases on the fleet replacement program and a dividend, which brought the fleet fund to \$307,000, of which \$150,000 was committed to fire equipment. The Council felt there should be more money in this fund, so they asked the departments what equipment purchases could be put off a year. By deferring these payments and going through the budget, the Council increased the fleet fund to \$927,000.

There is a pass-through electric rate increase of 14% in the budget. This will not begin until the City signs the new contract. Last year there was an 11% pass-through increase. The City has had some long-term contracts that were negotiated and the residents have benefitted with low rates. When these contracts are re-negotiated, the City will have to pay higher rates.

There is also an increase of \$1.00 for the first garbage can. The last increase in Waste Collection was 17¢ per can in 2000. This was a pass-through from the County on tipping fees.

A 75¢ per month per equivalent residential user storm drain increase is also proposed.

The Mayor's budget included a 4% increase in water rates. The Council asked the Public Utilities Advisory Board (PUAB) to look at this. This rate has always been tied to the cost of service. There has been a big increase in building supplies, concrete, steel, etc. PUAB found that some of these increases were from 80% to 110%. Based on this, PUAB recommended the water rate be increased by 10.8%. The last increase in water rates was in 2003.

The Council has committed to keep the transfer from utility funds to the general fund at 17%. The Mayor's budget had a 16% transfer. After the Council redid some things, the transfer is now 16.86%. Mayor Pro Tem Adams said this transfer is perfectly legal and has been done for a very long time. The general fund does not generate enough money to provide general fund services, such as recreation and police.

The Mayor recommended 3.4% for salary increases. The Council kept this at this amount, but changed the way it will be administered. There will be 1.4% for a market increase and 2% for merit. The transition will be made so that the amount of increase will be based solely on merit in the future. Criteria will need to be established for the administration of that program.

There is one new Street Department full-time position in the budget. This was funded by existing monies. They eliminated the temporary positions and made them one full-time position. A Community Service Clerk was eliminated in the Police Department. The hours in the Police Department were changed to maintain coverage until 6:00 p.m. rather than 8:00 p.m. There are three vacant positions to be under filled - HR Manager, Waste Treatment Superintendent, and Fleet Manager. These positions will be filled, but not at the same rate as the previous employees when they left.

Some ongoing commitments in the budget include the service lateral replacement program, \$50,000 to Utah State University for renovation of the old K-Mart Building, West Forest Project and the UDOT Main Street Program.

Mayor Pro Tem Adams announced that a public hearing on the budget will be held on June 15, 2006.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilmember Jensen, as a senior citizen of the City, expressed gratitude for those who planned and conducted the Senior Citizen Health and Fitness Day on May 31, 2006. He attended the activities in the afternoon and the dinner. He was absolutely outstanding. He expressed appreciation to Sarah Aldridge and Marilyn Peterson from the Brigham City Senior Center; Kristy Law and Robyn Daniels from the Recreation Department; Allison Johnson from the Heritage Brookside Home Care; the Boys and Girls Club of Brigham City; and a multitude of other volunteers. There were many, many volunteers, which speaks well of the community when people get involved when the need is there. He was very impressed with the response from the Boys and Girls Club. It was great to

give the young people an opportunity to interact with the senior citizens. It gives them the opportunity to gain a new respect for the wisdom and knowledge of the community's senior citizens, to be able to serve them and get to know them. He talked to several of the participants, and he received all positive comments. They all said it was a very enjoyable event and appreciated the City for putting it together. He did not hear one negative comment. One of the greatest benefits, other than the obvious physical benefits, was the social and emotional interaction between the senior citizens. The seniors felt that the City cares. Councilmember Jensen said a Mayor from another country stated that a community's heart and character is how they treat their senior citizens and war veterans. If this is true, then Brigham City has a huge heart and an abundance of character if judged on what the City does for the senior citizens. He felt he can speak on behalf of all the senior citizens of Brigham City in thanking Nancy Green and those others he mentioned by not forgetting the City's senior citizens and taking care of them and seeing their needs are met.

Mayor Christensen added that she attended in the morning and it was exciting to see how well organized everything was and how everyone was participating.

Mayor Christensen said yesterday the Utah Arts Council was in Brigham City and they had a listening tour. They commented that they had been doing listening tours throughout the state, and they had never seen a community that works so well together, and seems to have no turf battles. Brigham City employees are all striving to make Brigham City the very best it can be.

Chris Powers - Ms. Powers commented on the 14% electric rate and 10.8% water rate increase in the budget. She said she understands year after year increases have to occur, and is fully prepared for increases because it happens with everything. Her concern is the amount of the increases. She would like to see smaller increases on an annual basis rather than a large increase every 2-3 years. She is also in the service business and when her customers get a 5% rate increase they complain to her about it. She would like to see smaller increases on a continual basis versus large ones every 3-4 years. She urged the Council in future budgets that the increases be constant, but smaller so it is not such a hard hit to a budget every 3-4 years. She did not feel that she was the only citizen that has this concern, especially senior citizens that are on a fixed budget. It is very hard for them to add this to their budget on a monthly basis. She also expressed concern with the employee raises going to a strictly merit basis. Cost-of-living occurs everywhere, and everybody deserves a cost-of-living increase regardless of what their performance is. Everyone deserves a cost-of-living increase on a yearly basis, and maybe a merit in addition to that. Ms. Powers thanked the Council on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce for the grant they received for the Brigham City Peach Queen float. She has been helping with the float, and invited the Council and Mayor to help. They are really hurting for manpower and man-hours to get it ready to go by July 4th. They work on it on Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30-8:30.

There were no further comments from the public.

CONSENT

Request to Write-off Accounts Due to Resident Taking Out Bankruptcy or Being Sent to Collections

A list of accounts totaling \$9,739.23 was presented to be removed from the City's system due to the customer taking out bankruptcy or being sent to collections.

MOTION: A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Councilmember Bell, seconded and carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Request Authorization to Utilize Funds in Senior Center Trust Fund to Remodel Office Space at the Senior Center

Ms. Green approached the Council and distributed a blueprint of the proposed remodeling. She explained that as her staff has helped patrons with Medicare D counseling, they have to be HIPA (Health Information Privacy Act) compliant and their current office space makes this very difficult. Because of this requirement, other

employees had to leave their offices while she and Vickie Wright did counseling. It was very challenging. They receive complaints from patrons that their offices are not very user friendly. She worked with Steve Nelson, Building Superintendent, and Jared Johnson, Building Official, on a new office area. The Advisory Council on Aging suggested looking into remodeling the office area over five years ago. She added that there is enough money in the trust fund to pay for the remodeling. There is approximately \$172,000 in the fund as of April 30, 2006. The congregate meal program will have to be canceled for one week while the outside wall is erected. Other activities can continue as scheduled, and the internet will not be interrupted.

Councilmember Jensen asked if the Council should have an estimated cost before approving anything. Councilmember Hill agreed, adding that he does not question the need. Mr. Leonard said he talked with Mr. Nelson and he thought it would be approximately \$40,000-\$50,000. Mr. Leonard said figuring the square footage, he felt the most it would cost is \$64,000, but felt it would be closer to \$40,000 due to the work being done in-house and no exterior walls having to be built.

MOTION: Councilmember Adams made a motion to authorize utilization of funds in the Senior Center Trust Fund to remodel the office area at the Senior Center, subject to Mr. Nelson's review that the costs are reasonable. Councilmember Bell seconded the motion and unanimously carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Request for Approval of Fire Contract with Box Elder County

Mr. Buchanan approached the Council and explained that this contract has been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney. The contract as written is from January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006. Paragraph 3 makes reference to overhead costs to be negotiated and set by July 1, 2006. When the contract was drafted in December 2005, Mr. Buchanan and the Tremonton City Administrator were assigned to come up with a new formula that would be fair and equitable to all municipalities providing fire protection. However, there are ten new mayors in the County, and they have not been able to accomplish this. They plan to ask the County Commissioners in June to extend the price in the contract until December 31, 2006 to allow time to come up with the formula. The County will send out an addendum at that time.

MOTION: Councilmember Hill made a motion to direct the Mayor and Fire Chief to sign the fire contract with Box Elder County contingent upon the appropriate addendum. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Adams and unanimously carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Visioning Work Session

Mayor Christensen stated that the Council had previously set a Visioning work session for June 7 at 6:00. This is the same night as the "Meet the Candidates." She asked the Council if they would like to reschedule this or start at a later time. The Council agreed to reschedule the meeting to 7:00 p.m.

CLAIMS

Payment Register

Councilmember Adams moved to approve General Claims dated May 23, 2006 in the amount of \$167,568.29, and for May 30, \$136,722.97. The motion was seconded and carried.

A motion to adjourn to an Executive Session was made by Councilmember Adams. The Mayor called for a roll call vote. All councilmembers voted aye. The meeting adjourned to an Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. The Council returned to an open meeting at 8:40 p.m. and adjourned.